

1                                   **AMENDED TESTIMONY OF EDDIE COATES**  
2                                   **FOR**  
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4                                   **THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
5  
6                                   **DOCKET NO. 2001-83-C**  
7  
8                                   **IN RE: AMERIMEX COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**  
9

**ORIGINAL**

10  
11 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND OCCUPATION.**

12 **A.** Eddie Coates, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina. I am  
13 employed by The Public Service Commission of South Carolina, in the Utilities  
14 Department, as a Rates Analyst.

15 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS MATTER?**

16 **A.** The purpose of my testimony is to present to the Commission the findings of the  
17 Utilities Department with respect to Staff's review of the Application of AmeriMex  
18 Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to  
19 provide pre-paid local exchange services in South Carolina.

20 **Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF YOUR FINDINGS?**

21 **A.** Yes. Attached to my testimony is a summary of the Utilities Department's review and  
22 recommendations concerning AmeriMex's application. This summary has been  
23 designated as Exhibit EC-1. Staff's review of this Application was principally an  
24 analysis of AmeriMex's proposed tariff. The Company's proposed tariff was  
25 attached to the Company's Application and designated as Exhibit D. The purpose  
26 of Staff's review is to ensure that the tariff complies with the Commission's  
27 Regulations, Policies, and Orders. My Exhibit EC-1 summarizes various tariff  
28 exceptions noted by Staff and Staff's recommended or suggested modifications to  
29 the tariff.

30 **Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL COMMENTS CONCERNING THIS**  
31 **APPLICATION?**

32 **A.** Yes. AmeriMex is a Georgia corporation with headquarters in Roswell, Georgia.  
33 The Office of the Secretary of State of South Carolina has issued a Certificate of  
34 Authorization to AmeriMex to operate as an incorporated company within the State

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of South Carolina. The Application states that AmeriMex will provide pre-paid local exchange service on a statewide basis.

**Q. HAS THE APPLICANT REQUESTED WAIVERS OF ANY OF THE COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS?**

A. Yes, AmeriMex requests that this Commission grant it a waiver of Regulation 103-631, which requires them to publish a local directory. They also asked for a waiver of the requirement in Rule 103-610 that all records be kept within this state. They requested permission to use Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) instead of Uniform System of Accounts (USOA), and finally, requested a waiver of any reporting requirements. I have outlined Staff's recommendations in Exhibit EC-1.

**Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE COMPANY'S PROPOSED TARIFF?**

A. Yes. The Commission has customarily granted requests to allow companies a waiver of Regulation 103-631 concerning the publication of directories since directory listings are generally coordinated through agreements with the incumbent local exchange carries. The Commission also customarily grants a waiver of Regulation 103-610 regarding where a company's records should be kept. The Commission also customarily grants permission for companies to use GAAP instead of USOA. So Staff recommends that the Commission grant waivers of those three regulations.

However, the Staff would recommend denial of the request of a waiver regarding reporting requirements. Commission Staff recommends that all local exchange companies be required to file these reports. Information contained in these reports can be used to assess the development of competition in the local exchange markets in South Carolina.

**Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

A. Yes.